

REVIEW

Flora of New Zealand. By L. B. MOORE and E. EDGAR. Vol. 2. xi + 354 pp., illustrated. Indigenous Tracheophyta: Monocotyledones except Gramineae. Government Printer, Wellington. 1970. \$4.50(NZ).

It has been nine years since the publication of the first volume of the *Flora of New Zealand* (see Madroño 17:66–67). The present volume, devoted to the non-poaceous native monocots of New Zealand, continues in the tradition of excellence established by the first volume. It is dedicated to H. H. Allan, who completed most of the text of volume 1, but who died in 1957 before its publication. The contents of the book cover a broader scope than indicated by its title. The text is preceded by a useful "Annals" section which lists important systematic contributions to New Zealand botany published between 1959 and 1968, as well as some earlier publications omitted from a similar section in volume 1. At the end of the text there are a glossary, a list of chromosome numbers of New Zealand seed plants extracted from the published literature, and corrigenda for volume 1.

In volume 2, 22 monocot families are included, encompassing 75 genera and 339 species. The largest monocot families in New Zealand (excluding Gramineae) are the Cyperaceae (167 spp.), Orchidaceae (72 spp.), and Juncaceae (29 spp.). The circumscription of the families has been influenced strongly by the classification system of John Hutchinson, e.g., *Phormium* and *Cordyline* are placed in the Agavaceae, and the Philesiaceae, Hypoxidaceae, and Smilacaceae are retained as distinct families. The generic classification of the orchids follows that of Dressler and Dodson. The text is accompanied by excellent illustrations executed by Nancy Adams and J. B. Irwin (orchids only). As in the first volume, discussions of such topics as affinities, natural hybridism, taxonomic problems, and variation patterns make this book interesting browsing for phytogeographers and systematists who are concerned with the remarkable flora of New Zealand.—ROBERT ORNDUFF, Department of Botany, University of California, Berkeley, 94720.